

A RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING A **02-R-0382**  
PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOR PROGRAMATIC CHANGES IN CITY OF ATLANTA  
SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF HAVING AN OPEN PUBLIC POLICY  
DISCUSSION OF WHICH SERVICES THIS MUNICIPALITY SHOULD PERFORM  
AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF AIDING IN THE REORGANIZATION OF CITY  
GOVERNMENT WITH THE INTENT OF DECREASING THE MILAGE RATE FOR  
THE TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA IN THE 2003 BUDGET

Whereas, the Charter of the City of Atlanta currently requires that the annual budget be adopted by the end of February of any year and

Whereas, two months or one sixth of the expenditures have typically been expended before the adoption of a budget and

Whereas, the Council believes that a budget can best be developed after, not before, the personnel reorganization of a new Administration and

Whereas, the Council believes that a budget should be developed for a multi-year period and

Whereas, in 2002, the Mayor of Atlanta with the help of independent consultants has recognized an \$82 million gap between projected 2002 expenditures and available funds resulting from a \$7M deficit in the general fund reserves, a more realistic expenditure projection of \$33 M more than anticipated, and a requirement to build back up the General Fund reserve and

Whereas, a look at inflation adjusted General Fund expenditures for 20 years, reveals that the City of Atlanta expenditures have increased from \$270M to \$451M-- and for the past three years expenditures have increased at a rate of approximately \$15M annually and

Whereas, the Mayor's proposed budget for 2002 proposes to reduce expenditures at city government by \$43 million and increase revenue by \$38 million in increased property taxes and

Whereas, the citizens of Atlanta have come forward with many suggestions for aiding city government in closing this budget gap but were not in place last year so cannot be anticipated for 2002 and

Whereas, many of the good ideas for reducing the gap can be considered for the 2003 budget and

Whereas, the public demands and deserves a comprehensive look at the trends for the past 20 years, a public debate on what has been added each year for 20 years and a public policy discussion on reorganization of city government and

Whereas, the Service Delivery Review Commission requirement of the 1996 Charter has never been implemented and, in national research studies, Atlanta ranks very low among other cities in the delivery of city services and the cost of services and

Whereas, the public demands and deserves a comprehensive look at all expenditures and added legal obligations and

Whereas, the Council wishes to aid in the reorganization of city government and prepare to discuss the 2003 budget and future years based on this reorganization with the intent of decreasing the City of Atlanta mileage of property taxes in 2003.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

SECTION 1: That the City of Atlanta, with the help of independent consultants, identify the services and increases that have caused the current shortfall in more detail, identify the services that have increased over the past twenty years in order to evaluate the amount and efficiency of service delivery and develop ongoing budgets that balance the efficient delivery of services with the resources available to the City.

SECTION 2: That the Council requests that the Mayor move expeditiously to reorganize city government to improve the reality and the perception of service delivery and begin the formulation of the 2003 budget in April of 2002 with the intent of beginning budget discussions in October of 2002 for adoption by December 31, 2002 and

SECTION 3: That the Council requests the initiation of formulation of general budgets for 2004 and 2005 as the specific 2003 budget is formulated and

SECTION 4: That it is the intent of Council to justify mileage rate to our taxpayers annually.

# 02-R-0382

(Do Not Write Above This Line)

A RESOLUTION

BY COUNCILMEMBER CLAIR MULLER

A RESOLUTION BY THE ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL REQUESTING A PERFORMANCE AUDIT FOR PROGRAMATIC CHANGES IN CITY OF ATLANTA SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES OF HAVING AN OPEN PUBLIC POLICY DISCUSSION OF WHICH SERVICES THIS MUNICIPALITY SHOULD PERFORM AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF AIDING IN THE REORGANIZATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT WITH THE INTENT OF DECREASING THE MILAGE RATE FOR THE TAXPAYERS OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA IN THE 2003 BUDGET

- ☐ CONSENT REFER
- ☐ REGULAR REPORT REFER
- ☐ ADVERTISE & REFER
- ☐ 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER
- ☒ PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred 2/25/02 (Received Meeting 2/18/02)

Referred To: Finance / Executive

Date Referred

Referred To:

Date Referred

Referred To:

First Reading

Committee

Date

Chair

Referred to

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

Committee

Date

Chair

Action:

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other:

Members

Refer To

FINAL COUNCIL ACTION

☐ 2nd

☐ 1st & 2nd

☐ 3rd

Readings

☐ Consent

☐ V Vote

☐ RRC Vote

CERTIFIED

MAYOR'S ACTION